| | |
|---|---|
| Delhi . . . . | 6.77 |
| Daman & Diu . . | 0.02 |
| Lakshadweep . . | 0.00 |
| Pondicherry . . . | 0.26 |
| Silvasa . . . . | 0.00 |

**L.P.G. bottling plants by private companies including NRI and foreign Entrepreneurs**

759. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any private companies including NRI and foreign entrepreneurs have submitted any proposals for setting up LP Gas bottling plants;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, including their proposed location, production capacity and cost;

(c) what is Government's decision thereon; and

(d) whether any guidelines have been issued therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAP. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Decontrol over prices of Kerosene and LPG**

760. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to decontrol the prices of kerosene and liquified petroleum gas (LPG); and

(b) if so, the extent of subsity involved in the sale of these products and the reasons for decontrolling these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) There is no proposal to lift the price control on LPG and Kerosene distributed by Government Oil Companies. However, the private entrepreneures undertaking parallel marketing of LPG and Kerosene are free to sell these products on market-determined prices through their own distribution net-work.

(b) The total subsidy provided for the sale of kerosene and LPG (domestic) by the PSUs during 1992-93 is approximately Rs. 4421 crores. By allowing the parallel marketing of the two products additional quantities of kerosene and LPG would be available to the public over and above the quantities being marketed by the Public Sector oil companies. Further, it would also check the outflow of subsidy from the Pool fund in the sale of SKO and LPG.

**Cases of mixing kerosene in to petrol**

761. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of mixing Kerosene with petrol by the petrol pumps and selling the said adulterated petrol to the public which have come to the notice of Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases registered against the guilty persons; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Three cases of mixing kerosene with petrol have come to the notice of Government during the last three years, the details of which are given below:

| State | Name of the Dealer/Location | Action taken | Data of termination |
|---|---|---|---|
| Orissa | 1. Kendarnath Gouri Services, Bhauvaneshwar | Dealership terminated | 7-3-91 |
| | 2. Janpath Service Station Bhuvaneshwar | Do. | 24-4-92 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 3. Singh service station Dehradun | Do. | 24-4-91 |

**Prices of petroleum products**

762. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the deficit in the Oil Pool Account for the current financial year is set to cross Rs. 2,000 crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Finance Ministry had maintained soon after the exchange rate unification that there would be no need for raising the prices of petroleum products in view of the then prevailing low international prices; and

(c) whether Government would consider and upward revision in the prices of petroleum products to contain the deficit to manageable levels?

THE MINISER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The price changes for petroleum products depend on a number of factors. Some of these factors are international price of crude and products, the exchange rate for the rupee, trends in domestic production, imports etc. The Government reviews the state of these factors from time to time before taking any decision on prices.

**Targets of crude oil production**

763. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article on 'Poforming the Petroleum Sector' that appeared in Business India of September 13-16 1993;

(b) what is the current assessment of the target of the total prouction of crude oil as the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(c) whether it is a fact that the above target originally fixed at 180 mt. has been downward revised to 149 mt. and whether there is any likelihood of even this target not being reached;

(d) what is the expected imports of crude oil and petroleum products in the year 1996-97 and its value in dollar terms based on today's price;

(e) whether all the contracts have been finalized for exploration of gas and oil for which so far six rounds of biddings have been completed, if not, the reasons therefor;